

# gay community news

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The Gay Weekly

35¢



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FROM GCN TO YOU



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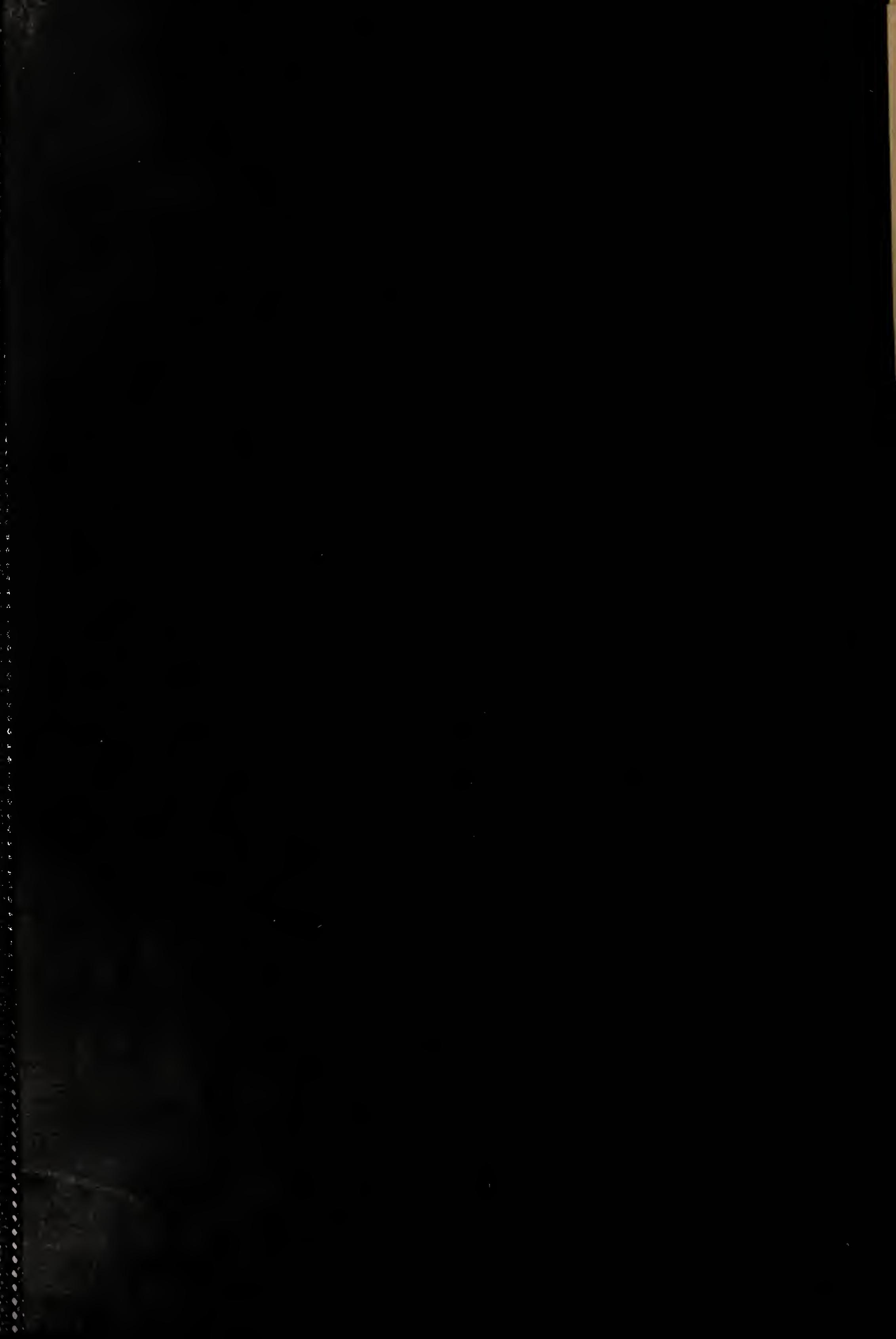
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*photo by Angela Russo*



## Boston/Boise Sees Witchhunt

# Committee of Outrage to Protest Arrests

By Jim Marko

BOSTON — A committee of outrage has been set up here to protest the indicting of 24 men in what the straight media has "erroneously been calling a boy sex ring." The Boston/Boise Committee has charged that the media, led by the *Boston Globe* and the *Boston Herald American*, have headlined the indictments of the arrests of 15 of these men in a "libelous manner."

The *Globe* headlined that the 24 men were indicted in a "Child Porn Case" which is, GCN has learned, not a factual statement. The office of Suffolk County District Attorney Garrett Byrne has stated that child pornography is not involved in the charges. Numerous articles in both the *Herald* and the *Globe* spoke of a "sordid sex ring" when in fact, as the District Attorney's office told GCN, 17 of those indicted "may have a connection" with the alleged prostitution ring said to be run in Revere.

The *Herald*, which ran the story of the arrests on its front page on Dec. 9, headlined "24 men cited in boy-sex case here." In the first paragraph of the story, however, it was noted that a number of those charged were accused in unrelated cases. Under a large photo of some of those arrested, the *Herald* saw fit to give the home addresses of all those charged in the case. In none of those earlier accounts were distinctions made between charges of rape and statutory rape.

One of those charged told GCN that he had "never heard of the Revere ring." "I only know one of the other men involved, so what kind of ring was this," he said.

### Tried and Convicted

"As far as I am concerned," he said, "we are all tried and convicted in



Suffolk County District Attorney Garrett Byrne

this state already." The newspaper reports on his arrest said he was charged with three counts of rape, three counts of unnatural acts, and two counts of rape "unrelated to the sex ring." In reality, however, he was charged with only two counts of statutory rape.

The embittered defendant spoke to GCN just hours after his release on \$10,000 bail. "I am not a child molester or a rapist. This is all just a political move on Byrne's [Suffolk County District Attorney Garrett Byrne] part. He is after political power."

A spokesperson at the office of the District Attorney told GCN that only 15 of the "63 young men we have spoken to" have actually "named names." "We are pursuing the case vigorously," the spokesperson added.

### Committee Support

The Boston/Boise Committee, which takes its name from a similar incident which took place in Boise, Idaho in 1955, has called for a retraction of "the lies in the media." John Mitzel of the committee said the investigation is "the beginning of a witch hunt by the District Attorney. This is a political attempt to smear the entire gay community."

The committee has received the support of the Boards of Directors of Dignity, Boston and the Boston Metropolitan Community Church. Dignity board president Patrick Keefe said that Boston/Boise has his "unqualified support." The MCC's Edward Hougen said that his board is "very solidly behind the stated aims of the committee."

The committee has demanded an open and fair trial for the men involved in the case as well as "an impartial inquiry to get the facts and protect the rights of the boys and men." It has also called for an end to the "hotline" set up by the District Attorney's office. Officials said they have received hundreds of anonymous tips on the phone and "are following up each and everyone of them." Boston/Boise, after meeting with an assistant to the District Attorney, has continued its demand for the resignation of District Attorney Garrett Byrne.

### Noble and Frank

Both State Representatives Elaine Noble and Barney Frank have urged the committee to drop its demand that Byrne step down. Noble told GCN that it is not a "sensible response." Frank characterized the demand as an "unreasonable response." "You can't expect the District Attorney to ignore something like this," said Frank.

Frank, who represents Boston's

heavily gay Back Bay district, told GCN that people should be "encouraged to make clear to the papers and media that they have not handled the story of the arrests fairly. They have made mistakes." Adding that he "understood the fear of the hotline," Frank assured gay people that he will speak to District Attorney Byrne's office and "make sure that no one gets arrested on an anonymous tip to the hotline."

Noting that this is "certainly a possibility for a witch hunt," Rep. Noble told GCN that she, however, had deep concern "regarding the scandalous sexual exploitation and abuse of young children by adults." Noble has called on the community to "support the efforts of the Suffolk County District Attorney's office in unraveling this contemptuous situation." Noble said that Byrne "shares with me my outrage and pledges this entire office to work toward final resolution of this matter."

### Fair Trial Demanded

It is the contention of the Boston/Boise Committee that "Hysteria has begun; lynching is in the wind." Attorney John Ward, who is acting as counsel to the Committee, said that the press handling of the arrests has been "terribly offensive to what I have been taught was due process."

Tom Reeves of the committee told GCN that "all these men deserve a fair trial." "All gay people are vulnerable and we should not prejudge these men on lies of the straight media." Reeves added that he feels that the gay community has given "more support than we expected." "Ten years ago nobody in the gay community would have come to our side," said Reeves.

## \$5 mil. Sought in Hillsborough Case

# Dismissal of Bryant from Suit isAppealed



Murder victim Robert Hillsborough

Chavez was granted immunity after he agreed to testify against the other defendants; and the 16-year-old was handed over to juvenile authorities.

On Dec. 9, attorney John Vaisey filed his appeal on behalf of Helen Hillsborough pointing out a number of "contacts" by Bryant and SOC in California. The appeal stated that anti-

gay state Senator John Briggs was involved in the Dade County gay rights referendum and had planned to bring the SOC campaign to California. Briggs and the other defendants later denied, under oath, that he was planning such an action. Briggs further denied, under oath, any media stories ever said there were plans to come to California. The denial followed Briggs' trip to Miami and his use of Bryant's picture and endorsement in his Save Our Children campaign, as well as his now postponed initiative against gay school teachers.

The appeal in the Hillsborough civil rights suit contended that Briggs' use of the SOC slogan was "with the knowledge of a Florida federal court's injunction against use of the name 'Save Our Children,' because of a prior interest of the Connecticut-based Save the Children organization." The appeal also pointed out that Bryant

herself had stated that 45% of the cash contributions and letters of support came from California.

Hillsborough attorney Vaisey said that the issue before the court is whether these "contacts" and others are sufficient to give the court jurisdiction to hear the case, "and whether or not gays as a class are entitled to the protection of the civil rights statutes."

"It presents an issue," said Vaisey, "which the courts are just beginning to deal with, namely, the extent to which persons may be responsible who use nationwide media, including radio and television, and cause harm to others."

Costs of the Hillsborough suit are being underwritten by contributions to a Legal Defense Fund set up by the Pride Foundation. The foundation is a San Francisco-based national organization which promotes educational and legal activity on behalf of anti-discrimination causes.

SAN FRANCISCO — An appeal has been filed against a federal judge's order dismissing Anita Bryant and the Florida Save Our Children, Inc., as defendants in the \$5 million lawsuit brought by the mother of a slain gay man. The judge granted the defendants' motion to dismiss on the grounds that the court in San Francisco had no jurisdiction over the defendants because of their "lack of contacts with California."

Last June, Robert Hillsborough was brutally beaten and killed near his Mission District apartment. According to police, Hillsborough was stabbed 15 times in the chest and face by four men who shouted "faggot, faggot." After a public outcry led by San Francisco Mayor George Moscone, police arrested John Cordova, Richard Spooner, Michael Chavez and a 16-year-old juvenile and charged them with murder. Cordova and Spooner are being tried on the murder charge;

# news notes

## A FALCONS' CHRISTMAS

PROVIDENCE, RI — The Falcons Motorcycle Club has come to the aid of the Metropolitan Community Church of this city in the "true spirit" of the holiday season. Providence MCC pastor Marge Ragona (recently the assistant pastor of the Boston MCC) found herself in a bind this year with 18 children at the church who were from families on welfare or unemployment, faced with a "not so merry Christmas."

Hearing of the problem, the Falcons decided to forego their usual gift-giving at their annual party and collect presents for the children at MCC. "It's fantastic," Ragona told GCN. "We have more than enough gifts for the children. We have tinker toys and construction sets and doll houses and stuffed toys. I mean really cute toys, neat stuff. These guys [the Falcons] are the sweetest guys that ever lived."

Providence MCC will distribute the gifts to the children at a Christmas Eve party at the church.

## THIRD TAX EXEMPT RULING

CINCINNATI, OH — The Lesbian Activist Bureau, Inc., is the third homosexual group nationally to receive Internal Revenue Service tax exempt status. The granting of the status is a turnaround in IRS attitudes towards homosexual groups. Previously, the IRS denied this exemption to any gay charitable cause unless that particular cause voiced in its articles of incorporation amendments or bylaws that homosexuality "is a sickness, disturbance, or diseased pathology." This is no longer the case and in recent months the status was also granted to the Howard Brown Memorial Fund, New York City, and Lambda Services, Denver.

The Lesbian Activist Bureau of Ohio was granted the status on the basis of its purposes as a nonprofit corporation to educate the public on homosexuality and foster community acceptance and promote civil, social and economic equality for homosexuals.

## SUPERMARKET PICKET

NEW YORK — Some 25 activists participated in a Gay Activists Alliance-sponsored demonstration Saturday, Dec. 10, in front of Sloan's Supermarket, located about a block east of Sheridan Square in Greenwich Village.

Seth Lawrence, Political Action Committee Chairperson, stated that GAA was "kicking off a campaign to promote a 100% effective boycott of Florida Citrus Products." The Sloan's demonstration was the first in a series of demonstrations to be held at various supermarkets located in predominantly gay areas. It urged the management to remove Florida Citrus Products from the store's shelves and encouraged customers to individually boycott the products.

The demonstration lasted approximately two hours, during which time several customers were turned away from the store. The only unpleasant incident occurred when someone dropped a plastic bag filled with water from an apartment window several stories above the demonstrators. No one was hit, however, and there were no other attempts to harass the demonstrators.

Members of Hunter College's Gay Men's Alliance joined the demonstration, which was also endorsed by the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights and by Lesbian Feminist Liberation.

## A JURY OF PEERS

TAMPA, FL — Elwood L. Albright, who has been charged with robbery in the holding up of two savings and loan associations here, has asked that his case be decided by a jury made up of homosexuals.

At a hearing before Circuit Court Judge Morton Hanlon, Albright demanded that the jury for the trial have an "equal amount of jurors available for jury duty in accordance with minority rule." When the judge asked, "What's this minority rule?" Albright said, "Homosexuals, sir."

Albright, an admitted homosexual, and two other men were charged with the robberies this summer. Police said more than \$16,000 was taken in the heists.



## A RIGHT TO PRIVACY

LANSING, MI — The Michigan State Senate has approved a resolution that proposes a constitutional amendment to protect the right to privacy of all citizens. The proposed amendment, introduced by Sen. Basil Brown, would add to the state constitution a clause prohibiting interference in the right to privacy without due process of law.

The amendment, said Brown, would put into law what is now only a judicial concept. He noted that the protection would give gay people substantially more protection against police harassment and legal interference.

The resolution was passed by the Michigan Senate by a 26-0 vote and now goes to the House for approval. If passed by the House, the amendment proposal would then be submitted to the voters in next November's general election.

## ANITA DE-BOWLED

NEW YORK, NY — Denying that the move has anything to do with her anti-gay stances, NBC has dumped Anita Bryant as co-host of this year's televised Orange Bowl Parade on New Year's Eve. A spokesperson for the network said Bryant would be replaced on the telecast by Rita Moreno.

Bryant, who has claimed that she is the victim of a blacklist because of her campaign against gay rights, has been a co-host of the Orange Bowl Parade for nine of the last 11 years. Her husband, Bob Greene, does not buy the network's disclaimer and is blaming fear of an on-the-air incident for the cancellation.

## BROWN MAY TESTIFY

SACRAMENTO, CA — A lesbian who says she lost her job as the state's top drug abuse official for political reasons wants Gov. Edmund Brown to testify at her dismissal hearing. James Waller, a state Personnel Board hearing officer, said he will order Brown to testify if he feels the testimony by lower officials requires it. "After we hear this evidence, then perhaps the governor's testimony may or may not be important to us," said Waller.

The hearings, which began on Jan. 23, are on an appeal by Dr. Josette Mondanaro of her dismissal as head of the Dept. of Health's Division of Substance Abuse. Officials said Dr. Mondanaro was fired because she used sexually explicit language in a letter written to a friend on state stationery.

Dr. Mondanaro, an acknowledged lesbian, said she was fired to avoid political embarrassment for Brown, who is up for reelection in 1978. The governor admitted that he approved the firing of Dr. Mondanaro but added she was dismissed for failing to "follow the standards of society."

## SEEING A CERTAIN LIGHT

BOSTON — Hustler publisher Larry Flynt has already announced his "turning back" to the Bible after the much publicized religious talks with Ruth Carter Stapleton, sister of the President. The controversial publisher recently insisted though that his magazine will not be changing that much. "We've got all the sex we need right out of the scriptures," said Flynt.

Flynt said he had a new idea for a cover, showing President Carter in an alarmed pose. "Then we'd have the headline say something like 'Inside, Ruth Carter Stapleton shows pink for Jesus'. Then, in the centerfold, we'd have her standing in a pink dress holding a copy of the Bible."

There has been no comment from Ruth Carter Stapleton about Flynt's new approach to his magazine.

## A CALL FOR HELP

CAMBRIDGE — Transition House, which offers shelter and support to women and children who are escaping violent home situations, is moving. The 2 year old organization has acquired a 22 room house with a spacious yard. The building, however, is in need of extensive renovations. Because of the move and the increase in demand for House services, the financial situation is critical and contributions are being asked for.

A non-profit, tax-exempt program of the Women's Educational Center, Inc. of Cambridge, Transition House provides help to women victimized in home situations. At Boston City Hospital, 70% of the assault cases seen in the emergency room are women who have been attacked in the home.

Make checks payable to Transition House (all contributions are tax deductible) c/o Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge, MA 02139.

# Attention Focuses on Young Gay Prisoner

By David Brill

WINTHROP, MA — Prisons are not nice places to be, especially if you're gay. This is obvious, you might say, until you talk to David De Costa, an inmate at the Deer Island House of Corrections for the last 13 months.

David turned 19 last Sunday. He is presently serving time for several breaking and entering offenses, as well as a mandatory one year sentence for violation of the state's new gun registration law. David is also gay.

David arrived at "The Island," as it is called, on Nov. 8, 1976. He brought with him a juvenile record from Rhode Island as well as convictions in courts across Massachusetts, including New Bedford, Taunton, Fall River, Plymouth, and Boston. He got into stealing cars and housebreaking, he said, "because I didn't want to keep hustling."

The second of eight children in a fatherless, welfare family, he has also worked as a cook in a Boston gay disco. Having left home after ninth grade to work the streets, he is used to rough times.

About six months after arriving at The Island, trouble began to start for David. His young lover who had been visiting him regularly, kissed him

good-bye. That is about when it all started.

"It" is a guard who ridicules David in front of the other inmates, referring to him as "Miss Dear Island." "It" is getting beaten by guards after refusing to have sex with them (in exchange for drugs). "It" resulted in David's slashing of his own wrists on Nov. 12 and being brought via ambulance to Boston City Hospital.

After being stitched up at BCH, David was returned to The Island. His bandages later loosened up — he said he did not touch them — and he was brought back to the hospital with his arms bleeding. From the hospital, he was sent to Bridgewater State Hospital for observation, which is where *Boston Phoenix* reporter Flora Haas and this reporter interviewed him last week and obtained his story.

Deer Island was the site of an in-depth probe by the Massachusetts Attorney General's office this July, after several inmates reported being beaten by the guards with the approval of the corrections officials.

Since the Attorney General's probe a number of guards have resigned as well as Steven Carroll, jail master at Deer Island, and William Nickerson, Suffolk County Penal Commissioner. It is

reported that under Nickerson and Carroll, gay inmates at The Island were placed in segregation, supposedly "for their own protection."

David has spent forty days in Bridgewater and has been certified "not disturbed." This means that now that he has returned to Deer Island his complaints and his fears are all justified. The people at The Island will, according to one source there, "treat him with kid gloves," because they know that he was not contriving any of the complaints of abuse that he spoke of.

Most of those complaints were directed at two Deer Island guards: Brian Holland and Dennis Umbro. Holland threatened and fought with David on many occasions and kicked his teeth in so that they are now all visibly cracked. Umbro kicked David in the ear and punched him in the face.

A source close to State Corrections Commissioner Frank A. Hall described David's dilemma as "residual," explaining that although most of the trouble at Deer Island had been resolved when Carroll and Nickerson and the guards left earlier this year, there are apparently still a few left over problems.

David did not want to return to The Island, for fear of continued harass-

ment. He will not be eligible for parole until July 1978, and he asked if he could be transferred to the Berkshire County House of Corrections in Pittsfield for the duration of his term. However, a transfer involves a transfer of a Pittsfield inmate to Boston, which is not easy to arrange. In addition, the social and legal service aides at Deer Island, who have been working on David's case for some time, would be unable to help him were he to be transferred to Pittsfield.

Overtures on David's behalf to Suffolk County Penal Commissioner William Celester have been made by Rep. Barney Frank, Rep. Alfred Saggese (D., Winthrop), and Rep. Barbara Gray (R., Framingham).

It will not be known for a few more days whether the situation at Deer Island has improved for David, who is anxious to begin some sort of vocational training and/or furlough, so that he can apply for parole. (Presently, there are no furloughs or work release programs at Deer Island.) David is sure now that city and state officials are aware of his plight which will be the object of considerable attention by investigating authorities for some time to come.

## Considering Brooke Challenge

# Rep. Noble Considers Her Next Move



State Rep. Elaine Noble.

BOSTON — Reports have begun to circulate that Massachusetts State Rep. Elaine Noble is considering challenging U.S. Senator Edward Brooke. Noble, the nation's first and only open lesbian legislator, told GCN, "A lot of people have approached me about it and I would not rule anything out. A person in my position should not rule anything out."

Noble has already announced that she will not be seeking re-election (GCN, Oct. 29), having decided not to run against her old political ally, Rep. Barney Frank, in the 1978 elections. Noble and Frank have been serving in the Massachusetts House together since Noble's election in 1974. Under the state's redistricting plan, however, the number of seats in the House was cut from 240 to 160; Noble and Frank's districts were virtually merged.

According to Noble, Secretary of State Paul Guzzi and Lt. Gov. Thomas O'Neil have spoken to her about the Democratic challenge to Brooke, the top Republican officeholder in the state. "They just haven't made up their minds about whether they will be running someone against Brooke," Noble said.

Secretary of State Guzzi told GCN, through a spokesperson, that he had a "friendly, casual conversation" with Noble. "We are friends and allies politically but at this point, there is no purpose in speculating on the Senate race," Guzzi said.

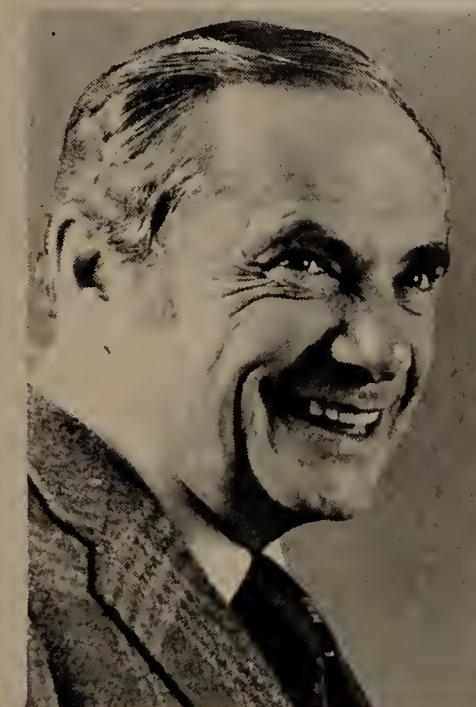
The Secretary's office would have no comment, however, on the professional poll commissioned by Guzzi and Lt. Gov. O'Neil. The poll will be conducted by Patrick Caddell's Cambridge Research Survey, the firm that is regularly employed by the Carter Administration. Reportedly both Guzzi and O'Neil may both seek re-election but a strong showing by either in the poll could be a factor in a decision to run against Senator Brooke.

Brooke may also be facing a challenge within the Republican party. Boston radio commentator Avi Nelson

has expressed some interest in a possible primary challenge.

The political future of Elaine Noble seems at this time to be surrounded by little more than rumor and her own decision to "not rule anything out." There had been an earlier indication that she might be interested in running for Boston City Council. That action, however, has seemingly been stopped with the defeat of the Galvin Bill in the November city-wide elections. The measure would have established district representation on the City Council.

## Affirmative Action Plans Sent to PA Governor



Penn. Governor Milton Shapp.

HARRISBURG, PA — Most Pennsylvania state agencies have included in their affirmative action plans non-discrimination clauses which protect gay and other sexual minority workers. The Pennsylvania Council for Sexual Minorities announced that the plans have been submitted to Gov. Milton Shapp's office.

The plans prohibit discrimination on the basis of "life style, affectional and sexual preference." Anthony Silvestro, chairperson of the Council, said that by protecting homosexuals in the plans, "many state agencies have institutionalized a concern for the rights of all of their employees. Although this isn't a splashy action, it may be the most significant achievement for sexual minorities in Pennsylvania this year."

Officials stressed that this expansion of agency nondiscrimination clauses is not intended to result in preferential

treatment for gays, since that would lead to identification of all applicants' sexual orientation. Hiring, promotions and other state personnel actions, however, will be done without any regard to sexual orientation.

This latest action in Pennsylvania was another in a series of steps which have been taken to protect the rights of gay state employees. The state's personnel rules were recently expanded to include the provision and three of the unions representing state workers have successfully bargained to have the protective wording included in their contracts with the Commonwealth.

According to Council chairperson Silvestro, "in regards to protecting the rights of gay people and all people, our state government has taken a leadership role. I expect that similar actions will be taken by other employers in this state and on the national scene as well."

# editorial

## Morality, the Press, and the Law

Fresh on the heels of Anita Bryant's "Save Our Children" campaign, a 6-month old investigation by the Suffolk County District Attorney's office has uncovered what they, and the press, are terming a "homosexual child porno-ring." (See Page 1 story). Until the facts are sorted out from the fictions the existence of such a network remains hearsay. Yet the zeal with which the straight press has irresponsibly eaten up, and passed on, the pabulum fed to them by the District Attorney's office smacks of the type of sensationalism that distorts truth and violates the rights of the indicted men.

This type of reporting, manifested through such tactics as the *Boston Herald-American*'s front page "Who's who among the defendants in sex case", is closer in its tone to the gossip column than to responsible news reporting. Yet the egregiousness of this blatantly conclusive reportage pales in comparison to the District Attorney's office's installation of a "hotline". Through such a mechanism the public-at-large is now free to call in the names of any "suspected" boy-molesters, who then become targets for police investigation. The type of hysteria and resultant paranoia let loose by such an onslaught of accusations resists both reason and any concept of due process.

As gay people we face the constant danger of being labeled outlaws, both socially and legally. As long as sodomy laws remain on the books in any state in the nation we are all potential criminals. The ease, we might even say the glee, with which the authorities and the straight press have highlighted the fact that this sex-

ring is homosexual, deliberately enlarges the scope of their libelous intent to include all gay people. Such an insidious categorization serves the purposes of homophobia all too well. There is a political undercurrent here.

The impulse of many gay people, who do not share the sexual patterns of the pedophile sub-culture, is to recoil, to dissociate themselves from the accused men and the immediate struggle of these men for their civil rights. To do so is to play into the hands of the people who have none of our interests at heart. By supporting the civil rights of the accused men we can cause this smear campaign to backfire. By educating ourselves to the needs of every sub-group within the multifarious gay community, we can serve the interest of truth and stifle those elements which would divert our attention from informed judgment. We are often hesitant to fight for that which we do not understand. Ignorance of the crucial issues at stake here will only encourage prejudice.

Too often we accept, all too readily, the definition of morality proffered by traditional authorities. An anti-sexual culture has deliberately narrowed that definition to primarily describe the sexually illegal. Before one judges the "immorality" of the indicted men, remember that in the eyes of the law that is wantonly violating the rights of individuals to build its case for massive guilt-by-association, we, as gay people, are all "immoral". Consider, in the same breath, the immorality, even the obscenity, of a branch of the legal system, and a straight press, that tries a man before the courts do.

## community voices

### futile fasting

Dear GCN:

In response to Mr. Avicoli's commentary on an MCC Rev. fasting. I am a member of MCC Boston. I find it totally inappropriate for Don Borbe or Troy Perry to fast. Fasting is an S&M approach to the problem of gay rights.

We have to go into the streets for passage of any kind of meaningful bills which allow us to live our lives with honesty, dignity, integrity; we cannot depend on the miracle of the Legislature to give us loaves and fish, from our simple statements.

All you folks read Dr. King's *Letter From A Birmingham Jail*. The beloved man advocated non-violent action, so did the great mahatma Ghandi. And for all you right-wing libertarians read Henry David Thoreau on Civil Disobedience; it was anti-government, to be a bit simplistic. The Mahatma fasted, so did Thoreau, so did King.

But we gay men and lesbians are a different case. We are cast as lepers; Garrett Byrne on his 81st birthday would like us pilloried and sent to jail forthwith to be buggered and treated as those children were treated by the chicken queens.

I, for one, won't have it. I will not accept in my Irish way, the sin of shared guilt. I'm only sorry in a capitalist society, because I am part of the mechanism and not really part of a vociferous minority that says we colored girls are not opting for insanity or some kind of feel-good neurosis.

No Fasting, because nobody is going to give a shit whether a lesbian or a faggot loses thirty pounds in a cause. It will affect our Blood Sugar quotient and maybe we'll not only be gay but pre-diabetic.

We need our strength. More calories to the cause. Let us not in any way, shape, or form dilute our strength. We may have hidden power which we have not tapped. Let's meet one another through various forms of Homophile groups. Let's know our crawlspace and our clearspace.

And let us damn the Fascists to Hell.

Ronnie Allen  
Somerville, MA

### Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

From its inception GCN has relied upon the kindness of gay strangers. It is not an exaggeration to claim that without our volunteers we could not put out a weekly newspaper. The volunteer process spans the entire range of GCN's production schedule: from the writing of news and feature articles, to the proofreading and layout of copy, to the mailing of copies to our subscribers.

Such a network needs many hands to keep it in motion. There is a lot of work involved, but the spirit and atmosphere that is created by such a cooperative gay venture lighten the load. At the end of a typical Thursday evening a paper has been put to bed, and many a stranger has made some friends. We go home tired, but we also go home pleased.

So let your talent out of the closet. We know that you're out there. Writers, artists, photographers, grammarians, stuffers and folders, answer the call. Let us learn from you. In return we promise to teach you everything we know. Stop in or give us a call.

### shallow martyrdom

Dear Editor:

The attempts to portray Anita Bryant as the victim of the new McCarthyism involve some of the most tortuously convoluted and shallow rationalizing to come down the pike in a long while.

Dear *Village Voice* and *New York Times*, this is how the cow ate the cabbage. I do not buy Florida orange juice because I realize that if I did, some of my money would pay the inflated salary of a bigot who would cheerfully fire me and have me evicted from my apartment, if only she could. In some circles that's called enlightened self interest. It's the same reason feminists choose not to enrich the coffers of convention cities in states which have not ratified the ERA.

Secondly, Anita Bryant has not been professionally blacklisted. No organization has instructed its membership to refuse to work with her. The fact is that if it were not for gays and Jews, the arts in America would have perished long ago. For an entertainer to attack either and

not expect a sizable collection of individual animosities to surface is naive. Another fact is that Bryant has turned down numerous lucrative offers to publicly debate gay rights. If that's what it's like to be blacklisted, I'd like to get a piece of the action.

Before the Dade County vote, Bryant said she was prepared to sacrifice everything. Now that she has to scrimp by on a mere \$100,000, she cries persecution. I am not moved to tears.

Hugh Crell  
San Francisco, CA

### gay buying guide

Dear GCN:

A Boston reader of THE INFORMANT sent us the December 3 "Community Voice" page of GCN, on which there's a letter from U. G. Dietz remarking on the need of gay consumer protection. This is exactly what THE INFORMANT is all about. We would appreciate your letting Mr. Dietz and your other readers know of our existence.

I'm enclosing several issues of our monthly Letter and a copy of our first Buyer's Guide (the second will be out later this month), given free to subscribers. If any of your readers are interested, we'll send them a free sample copy of the latest Letter — information on subscribing and details on our other services, which include a consumer's collection bureau, contests, etc.

We're currently developing a second newsletter, to debut in January: THE GAY BUSINESS REPORT, to do for gay business what THE INFORMANT does for the gay consumer.

Incidentally, both BLUEBOY and BRENTWOOD, of which Mr. Dietz complained, are honest, though we do receive occasional complaints. Both have always followed through on complaints and if Mr. Dietz will send us the details we'll contact both companies on his behalf.

Cordially,  
Phillip Wolf, Publisher  
*The Informant*  
P.O. Box 5723  
East Pasadena Station,  
Pasadena, CA 91107

### freedom and reason

I cannot help but agree with your beautifully reasoned editorial, "A Question of Balance" (10 Dec.), while at the same time I must agree with The *New York Times* editorial, reprinted in the same edition. Any abridgement of one's right to speak, even Anita Bryant's, is an abridgement of my right to speak, and that I hold dearly.

But I have quite another reason to boycott all Florida citrus products that still allows me to believe in free speech: I refuse to spend a nickel for any product if one penny of that goes into the jeans (or in this case, clutch purse) of anyone so despicable.

Most sincerely,  
Lansing Bailey  
Martha's Vineyard, MA

### minorities at work

Dear GCN:

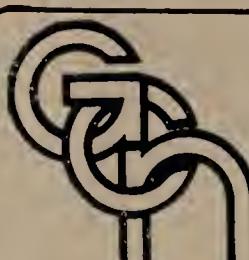
I work in a hospital like a lot of other lesbians and gay men. I enjoyed reading Gyllensvard and Millen's "Lavender Collar Worker" in your 12/10 issue. They describe what it's like to be gay where I work. Plus they make me think a lot about what it means to be a gay worker among women, blacks and other poor people. Much more needs to be said.

Thanks GCN for printing this article. Maybe in the future you could solicit more articles where people talk about what their work is like.

Mark Grable

### NEWS EDITOR

GCN is looking for a full-time news editor. Journalistic experience, knowledge of gay politics necessary. \$70/wk. salary. Anyone interested should call Harry or Jim at 426-4469.



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# speaking out

## IN DEFENSE OF BOY LOVE

By Tom Reeves

As I write this I assume that GCN has adequately aired the demands of the Boston/Boise Committee. I assume the gay community will know by now that the 24 men indicted for alleged sex with boys were smeared by the press and unfairly treated by the District Attorney. I hope gay people are not easily fooled by accusations against gay persons in the straight media. Certainly, no responsible gay leader should condemn gay men publicly and call for cooperation with the police without first checking thoroughly gay sources of information as well as straight.

None of these men has been accused of violence. None has been accused of child prostitution. Some of the men have been accused of entirely separate acts not alleged even by police to be connected with the "ring." The boys questioned were mostly 13 and older, and it is not yet clear whether any boy under 13 alleged that a sex act took place. One boy questioned by police told a meeting at GCN last week of the confusion and pressure of the grilling by detectives of him which he characterized as "mental rape." The accused men had their addresses published on front pages and TV screens, and they have received violent threats as a result. The police called for anonymous tips on ANY gay men, and they have leaked gossip and unsubstantiated rumors about impending indictments, this aimed obviously at creating panic in the gay community.

I assume these facts have been covered in GCN, but I repeat them because it is hard to counter a lie once it is published. I hope GCN will not only print the facts, but will support the demands of the Boston/Boise Committee editorially. I hope GCN will follow the lead of BODY POLITIC in Canada which refused to be cowed by the unpopularity of this issue. BODY POLITIC led the gay community in Toronto to stand behind all gay men and boys and their rights in the face of a similar witchhunt.

But I want to speak out now as an individual, not as a member of the Boston/Boise Committee. I want to speak about sex and other relationships among men and boys in Boston. On any night in Boston, hundreds of men from our gay community meet boys who are under age. There are even more boys out there, mostly gay but some straight, who offer themselves sexually and seek out men. The most visible element in all this is hustling, but far more numerous are the incidents that do not involve money. Even Project Lambda, as commendable as its work is, gets at only a special tip of the iceberg — street kids, hustlers, teenage drag queens and others. Those boys need guidance and ways to assert their gay identities, but there are far more boys who live in every neighborhood and who meet men clandestinely out of a desperate need for affection and support.

I know many such boys. I have loved some of them deeply and received their love in return. The first 13-year-old boy I met in Boston was Jim Dubro. He boldly approached me on Charles Street — I was scared to death. I met him 18 years ago. He is now a gay activist and TV producer in Canada and continues to be a close friend. Like Jim, many of the other boys I met are now leaders in the gay community. There are others who have chosen bisexual life-styles, marriage and families. One such man whom I met at 14 and who is now 29 and married with children, visits me yearly from Germany. He, and she, feel it has been an important and positive part of their lives.

I say none of this in self-praise. I am no more or less frail than the other men I know in Boston who relate to boys. We have our faults, but we have provided absolutely essential life support for many, many boys. After talking with 9 of the defendants and with some of the boys who knew them, I am convinced that most of the 24 indicted men were caring, helpful friends to boys who had been abused and cast out by the straight society. I knew none of the 24 previously. I started out with a bias because of the media, but I am now proud to support them, not only in terms of civil rights but in terms of what I now believe to be their sexuality and their relationships with boys.

That is not to say that some of them did not make mistakes, were weak, or took advantage of some boys emotionally. I have seen no evidence of that, but such is humanity. Nevertheless, of all forms of gay sexuality (bar scene, outdoor cruising, S&M, gay couples), love between men and boys is often the most mutually beneficial, the least manipulative, the least transient and the most liberating.

Having said all this, I will backtrack a bit. The vicious hatred aimed at boy lovers and the taboo against this "abominable and unmentionable" subject has warped men and scarred many boys for life. Police tactics, press smears, careless talk by gay and straight people inspire paranoia, mistrust and self-hate. It is all the more remarkable in the light of heavy oppression that most men-boy relationships are light-hearted and open. Faced with the possibility of 20 years in prison for being in a room alone with a boy under 16 and with multiple life sentences for expressing affection, gay men in Boston relate to boys with considerable integrity.

The real child molestation story is in the straight world. I met a 15-year-old at the beach this summer. He is a delightful, kind boy. His parents have abused him (not entirely intentionally, more out of ignorance and prejudice), thrown him out from time to time, starved him (he is emaciated), neglected his health (he has serious colds and asthma without treatment), and endangered his well-being (sent him outside in cold weather without a shirt). His mother has pled with me to take him off her hands. She is not cruel, but she does not understand her son and is not equipped to be a mother. Since I could not take him, I contacted the welfare department and other agencies to no avail. I took him to Project Place. They were nice to him, kept him for more than their 2-week limit, and had to tell him to go back home. That was Thanksgiving Eve. His parents sent him back to me for Thanksgiving. Why couldn't Project Place help? Because there is a freeze on foster care for older children in this state (no more funds, they say) and there are no available group care "lots." I could be put away for intent to rape for letting him sleep at my house, if police managed to bully him and put words in his mouth as some of the boys questioned in this case have said was done to them. Where is the real child molestation?

There ARE many issues that remain unexplored by gay people. Prostitution is one, the ethics of relationships between adults and juveniles is another, and the meaning of "consent" is still another. In the meantime, I hope the gay community will not abandon this large segment of its population because of a quick and frightened response. Some of the men who have been indicted have not come out openly as gay (though some have). Many are from the working class, which is generally excluded from our community. Others live daily under such a threat that they cannot afford the luxury of openness. Think about what it meant for any gay person to come out 30 years ago and you have a small idea of what it is like for us to come out as men who love boys.

Gay brothers and sisters, please count us among yourselves and give us solidarity. Perhaps more than you who do not know boys, we who do are appalled and disgusted by real abuse or misuse of children or teenagers. We will join you to protect the rights of boys if you will help us clear away the enormous obstacles in the way of a responsible approach to gay teenagers and their needs. If we want to fight child molestation in any of its forms, we must dissipate the smoke screen of hysteria fostered this week in Boston. For starters, gay men should think back to when they were 13.

*("Speaking Out" is a column designed for the benefit of GCN readers. We encourage you to send your thoughts, ideas, feelings to Speaking Out, GCN, 2, Bromfield Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02108. The opinions expressed in the "Speaking Out" column do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper or those of individual members of the GCN staff.)*

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## conntact

By Dai Thompson

By Dai Thompson

A few comments on GCN's coverage of the National Women's Conference held in Houston, particularly on Leslie Cagan's article two weeks ago. As a delegate from Connecticut to the Conference, I can certainly agree with Ms. Cagan's comments about the build-up of tension before and the incredible excitement after the Sexual Preference resolution came up. I never believed we would ever get the overwhelming mandate we received — up to the last minute, I was not even sure the Resolution would pass. But it did and the euphoria of that moment was especially welcome after the various defeats gay rights has received elsewhere this year.

Sifting through my many varied reactions to Houston, I keep coming upon a very strong urge to say "thanks" — to the lesbians in Connecticut who campaigned for my election as a delegate and to the many women, and men, who helped create our victory in Houston, particularly to Jean O'Leary, the Lesbian Caucus of NGTF, the Texas Gay Task Force and the lesbians of Houston. As a member of the National Commission for IWY, Jean O'Leary was able to get lesbianism listed as a topic to be discussed at the state conferences: a not-insignificant feat considering the presence on the Commission of women like Martha Griffiths ("Lesbianism is *not* a women's issue.") If the Commission had not agreed to allow lesbianism to be discussed, any supportive resolu-

tions could have simply been ruled out of order at any of the state conferences — we wouldn't have even gotten to first base.

The second major obstacle O'Leary was able to overcome was in the drafting of the National Plan of Action, the set of 26 resolutions that occupied almost all of our time during the Conference. Given the Preliminary Rules of the Conference, there was serious concern that it might be very difficult to introduce Resolutions not proposed by the Commission, fears totally justified later by the sequence of events in Houston. Numerous delay tactics succeeded in slowing the Conference down to the point that it had to be extended just to get to Resolution 26. No resolutions outside the National Plan were ever considered by the Conference, except those offered as "substitutes" to the Commission's Resolutions. "New Business" simply never came up. Had Sexual Preference not been a part of the National Plan of Action, had the subject been ruled "out of order," lesbianism and gay rights might never have even been considered by the Houston conference. We wouldn't have been defeated — we simply would never have been mentioned.

It will take time, of course, to realize what, if any, really substantial gains were made by the National Women's Conference. But whatever victories we achieved down there, none of us could have done it alone. The Hospitality

Suites in the major hotels, the hundreds of balloons, the lesbian caucuses and press conferences, the very popular NGTF booth at the Convention Center — all helped give our movement credibility. We were not just a few troublemakers. Hundreds of lesbians from all over the country helped create a vital presence in Houston — and I doubt that anyone who was there

will ever again be able to shove us in a corner and ignore us. If nothing else, we were everywhere during the Conference and we proved that we are not going to just go away. The people of this country are going to have to deal with us and our rights — and that, as far as I can see, is a major step toward realizing full equality.

Continued on page 7

## An Emmy for WBZ's 'Gay Rights'



BOSTON — WBZ-TV's series of programs on the subject "Gay Rights, Who's Right?" has won a New England local Emmy Award for Best Station Project. The series, which aired on the NBC affiliate in August of this year, was part of the station's "Gay Impact Week." "Gay Rights, Who's Right?" was a full week's worth of programming on the issue of rights for gays. It came shortly after the defeat of the gay rights ordinance in Dade County, Florida. The decision to do the week of programming, believed to be unique in American television, was made by the station's general manager, Sy Yanoff. Yanoff (l.) accepts the Emmy from Tony Pepper and Darlia Diaz St. Marie.

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## new york, new york

By Harold Pickett

By Harold Pickett

NEW YORK — Early last week, there was a meeting of lesbian and gay leaders at Councillor Carter Burden's office to determine whether New York City's proposed gay rights bill should be forced out of committee and on to the floor of the City Council for a general vote before Burden leaves office on Dec. 31. Burden has been a chief sponsor of the bill for a number of years. Also discussed was the need for a successor to Burden as a co-sponsor of the bill. It's reported that Carol Bellamy, newly elected Council President, has agreed to be the bill's first sponsor and that any re-introduction of it would bear her name, as well as the name of any other co-sponsor.

On Dec. 2, a delegation from the Gay Activists Alliance paid a visit to the *Village Voice*. The protest was in response to a headline which read "The Coast Is Queer," in the Dec. 5 issue. It was in reference to the discovery of lesbian seagulls off the coast of California. The activists brushed aside a security guard and occupied the editorial offices to demand a meeting. They chanted "Nigger, Spic, Kike, Wop — Epithets Have Got To Stop!" The two-hour demonstration extended into an hour past the office's closing time. The editor gave a verbal apology for the offense and later complied with the demand for a public apology which appeared in the following issue. It stated: "... it was certainly not our intention to give gratuitous offense to individuals or groups. Any offense given was inadvertent, and we apologize." Seth Lawrence, chairperson of GAA's Political Action Committee,

called this "an overwhelming victory." Militant actions such as this one must continue and are effective," he said.

The gay sweep of the Walkway, a cruising area on the East side extending north from 59th Street to Carl Schurtz Park, took place on Dec. 8 with no reported incidents. The purpose of the sweep was to patrol the area where assaults on gay men have occurred in the past. The patrolling activists have stated that they intend "to provide the much-needed service of self-defense in this city." The group has named itself the Hillsborough Brigade, after Robert Hillsborough, the San Francisco man who was stabbed 15 times in the chest, allegedly by a group of young thugs calling him a "faggot."

In conjunction with GAA's supermarket demonstrations for the boycott of Florida citrus products, it was reported that a survey is being taken in all lesbian and gay bars and restaurants to determine if Florida citrus products are still being served. GAA members further stated that "a list of non-participating establishments will be published to enable lesbians and gays not to participate in their own oppression. A letter will also be sent to those establishments asking them to join us in this city-wide effort to eliminate the products of the F.C.C." There may be additional discussion as to whether or not to urge a boycott of all brands of orange juice to insure that false claims aren't made regarding the origin of any juice served in these bars and restaurants.

Seth Lawrence has expressed great concern about "most of the gay press trashing the only militant, activist

group in the city." Besides certain remarks that have appeared recently in *Gaysweek*, the latest issue of *Christopher Street* referred to GAA as "moribund." Lawrence said, "A special note should be made that 'moribund' is a strange adjective to describe an organization that has been making headlines in its militant fight for gay rights: notably, the Geordies and Walinsky demos, the 'Wake Up The Mayor' Demonstration, the *Voice* zap, the orange juice boycott, and countless other actions. Is this 'moribund'? Have all the old activists, who are writing for the gay press, retired and become straight gays?"

Amnesty International, the human rights organization, received a letter, dated Nov. 3, from the Homosexual Information Center in Los Angeles. It was signed by secretary William Edward Glover.

The following verbatim quote from Glover's letter speaks for itself.

"Don't be deceived into thinking you know about homosexuality just because you have read or listened to the rantings of a few gay libbers, most of whom are guilt-ridden faggots who need therapy, and are the last people to be speaking for the over 20 million homosexual citizens of this nation."

Enough said.

## correction

Last week's cover photo of Arthur Bressan should have been credited to Ken Rabb.

Any group interested in showing Arthur Bressan's *Gay USA* should

write to: Artists United Fund for Gay Rights, Box 1536, 625 Post St., San Francisco, Calif. 94109.

The address was inadvertently left out of last week's centerfold interview with Bressan.

## conntact

Continued from page 6

In her article, Ms. Cagan suggested that the NGTF's emphasis on legislation is somehow misplaced. And yet she herself acknowledged that "it is central to our survival to remove repressive anti-gay legislation from the books and to have gay civil rights laws enacted." Few if any of us involved in lobbying would ever be so foolish as to think that any legislation could ever solve all our problems. A brief look at the history of other civil rights movements makes that fact unmistakably clear. But legislation can — and will — be a major step. And for many, such laws are essential prerequisites to their

becoming involved in other supportive activities. No one is suggesting that every gay person should put all their energies into changing laws — but I think it's going a bit far to imply that any group of people is wrong to put its energies where it feels they will be most useful. No one person or group of people can solve all our problems. We need lots of different people doing lots of different things. But sometimes a bit of concentrated energy is essential to getting anything accomplished. Houston was not perfect — I don't think anyone suggests it was. But I, for one, am awfully glad it happened.

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# It Was a 'Big Splash' at The Aquarium

By Richard Burns

BOSTON — In spite of the inclement weather over 700 people turned out for "The Big Splash" at The New England Aquarium on Tuesday night, Dec. 6. Initiated by Jay Aldrich, Function Coordinator and Manager of Special Services at the Aquarium, the "Splash" brought all of Boston's gay community together for the benefit of Gay Legislation (now the Massachusetts Caucus for Gay Legislation) and the Gay Business Association. A convention of sorts, the evening was an exciting potpourri of education, entertainment and political consciousness raising. "It was most important as an educational experience," said Linda Carford of the G.B.A. "It was the first time all the diverse elements of Boston's gay sub-culture were brought face-to-face with one another." Information tables and pavilions were sponsored by more than 50 organizations, ranging from the Gay Nurse's Alliance and the Metropolitan Community Church to Gay Alanon and the Committee for Gay Youth. Many commercial establishments were also represented, publicizing the somewhat recent development of gay services and products oriented towards a gay market.

There was music at every level of the Aquarium, beginning with piano bar crooners and Lilith, a rowdy women's band, and culminating in the disco on the upper level. And though surrounded by sharks, the cash bar, dominated and staffed by the gay bars of Boston, remained packed throughout the night.

Before the "Splash," Aldrich had not been publicly active in the gay



Part of the large Big Splash crowd at the Aquarium.

movement other than through his financial support. He first presented his idea for a benefit at the Aquarium to the G.B.A. at the end of last summer. "I felt that being gay and in an executive position it was time that I did something for the gay community. I think it was the House bill defeat that pushed me into it. The idea had been in my mind for over a year and I had to do something before I moved to California," said Aldridge.

At the last minute there was some question as to whether the benefit would be allowed to happen at all; several of the trustees of the Aquarium objected to the "Splash," ostensibly

because they considered it to be a political function. However, according to Aldridge, "the director of the Aquarium was extremely cooperative and we managed to work things out." What fascinated me most about the evening was that it was the first time in the country that all the different faces of the gay community were presented to people. That was the most beneficial aspect of the evening, that people were made aware of the strength and diversity of our community."

Paul Pedrazas, business manager of Gay Legislation, estimated the total profit of the evening at approximately \$4000. This money will be divided evenly between G.L. and the G.B.A. and has already been tentatively earmarked for a number of projects. Joe Martin, director of G.L., foresaw the possibility of setting up an educational arm which could politicize gays in Massachusetts through a series of seminars and through the publication of a booklet providing a background on the history of gay rights. Pedrazas also anticipated sending teams throughout the state to develop a network of support which could lead to more effective lobbying in the legislature. The Caucus is intending to play a role in next year's election, first investigating the voting patterns of candidates and then making specific endorsements. Martin said that not only the funds raised, but also the publicity generated by "The Big Splash" will help further the cause. "The numbers and the variety of the people who came and the location of the benefit made an important political statement. There are more and more gay people coming into view, letting themselves be seen and heard and felt politically and otherwise . . . and it's about time," said Martin.

Linda Carford said a portion of the G.B.A.'s funds will go to the establishment of an office for the Referral Service and the Job Bank which will direct people to gay owned or oriented businesses in Boston.

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# A MERRY & GAY CHRISTMAS

By Eric Rogers

So many people enjoy Christmas, it seemed a shame that the only gay input into the holiday was "Don we now our gay apparel." Times have changed and Christmas has come out of the closet. This year, when Santa Claus has so many people to remember, I wanted to be sure he didn't miss some very important people. To remind him of these friends of mine, I wrote a poem and some holiday jingles for the elves to sing as they're loading the sleigh. Unfortunately, we can't print all the tunes here. I've chosen the four most important carols, but left out some biggies like "I Saw Daddy Kissing Santa Claus," "I'm Dreaming of a Dyke Christmas," "Silber Bells," and "The Twelve Gays of Christmas." Sing the carols with your friends this holiday, beside the roaring fire, cup of eggnog in hand. And have yourself a Very Merry Christmas . . .

I've asked Santa Claus to make sure to visit a controversial figure in the community, one whom I like and respect. I am one of many who regret her decision to withdraw from the House race. This is a personal tribute and farewell to our Fenway State Rep. Have a Merry and Restful Christmas, Elaine!

## The First Noble

The first state rep  
That was female and gay  
Was our own Elaine Noble  
Of Boston's Fenway.

In the House, where Elaine  
Works at leadership rank  
She's decided that she won't oppose  
Barney Frank.

Noble, Noble,  
Noble, Noble,  
Gone is the Queen of Boston's Fenway.

Elaine started out  
To open some eyes  
She decided that she'd  
Have to make compromise.

So she made compromise  
So they'd vote for her bill;  
And her first-year success was a bit of a thrill.

Noble, Noble,  
Noble, Noble,  
Gone is the Queen of Boston's Fenway.

Three years have passed,  
And you know the bill's plight.  
And Elaine is attacked  
From the left and the right.  
From the left and the right,  
From the straights and the gays,  
And the critics continue their angry parleys.

Noble, Noble,  
Noble, Noble,  
Gone is the Queen of Boston's Fenway.

The First Noble  
Should enjoy Christmas Day  
With her new Christmas Tree  
Is a special display.

A special display,  
Filled with lots of good cheer  
With her own special Santa, without the  
reindeer.

Noble, Noble,  
Noble, Noble,  
Gone is the Queen of Boston's Fenway.

## 'Twas the Night Before Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas  
And inside the Hub,  
The crowds packed the bar  
At the Napoleon Club.

In Herbie's, In Harry's,  
In Saints and the Shed,  
The people were dressed up  
In green and in red.

In the House Restaurant  
The mood was romantic,  
That night at Together  
The dancing was frantic.

The masses jammed into  
Club '76;  
They filled up in Chaps  
Then they went on to Styx.

In Somewhere, Maguire  
Had set up a tree,  
In Paradise, Richard  
Led the holiday glee.

The parties and dancing  
Went on through the night,  
The evening was perfect,  
It all was so right.

When all of a sudden  
There arose such a clatter;  
They rushed to the windows  
To see what was the matter.

"Sneak out the back door,  
It must be a raid!"  
But Stonewall was over,  
No one was afraid.

When, what to their wondering  
Eyes should appear?  
But a man dressed in red,  
With a stud in his ear.

His eyes how they twinkled,  
He gave us a wink.  
Then I noticed his mittens  
And scarf were bright pink.

Eight lavender rhinos  
Were pulling his sleigh;  
I knew in a second,  
St. Nick must be gay!!

He jumped from his seat  
And his bells gave a ring;  
He said "Sisters and Brothers,  
I'm ready to swing!"

He rushed into the bar  
And he uttered some booze  
And old Grumpy St. Nicholas  
Started to cruise!

He bought drinks for lovers,  
And shouted good cheers!  
He gave special gifts  
To the folks he held dear.

He called out a name  
As he reached in his sack:  
"This new set of discs  
Goes to dear Jacqui Mac."

"For Jolly Joe Martin  
I've Gay Bills that pass;  
For Outrageous Craig Russell,  
I've jokes that aren't crass."

"For the Men at the Eagle  
I've brought some 'nice toys';  
A live Dennis Summers  
For 1270's boys."

"To Mister Charles Shively  
Some Freedom of Speech;  
To the crew at the Boatslip  
I've romps on the beach."

"To the Fenway Health Center,  
I've cures for v.d.'s;  
To the whole gang at Lambda  
I've brought fake i.d.'s."

"For Sylvia Sydney,  
Here's a taffeta gown;  
A tree trimmed with rubyfruits  
For Rita Mae Brown."

"For all of you out there  
Who've worked for our cause  
I've a day free of hassles  
And lots of applause."

"My work is steady,  
And fun to pursue;  
But there's work more important  
That we've got to do."

"Since most people know me  
And love me, no doubt,  
It's time to be honest,  
It's time to come out."

"The elves have decided  
To give me three years,  
I'm coming to Boston,  
I'm changing careers."

"I've been in their homes  
And under their tree  
Who else would be better  
To fight bigotry?"

"So, if I seem right,  
And I fit qualification,  
I'd like to join forces  
With Gay Legislation."

The people just stood there  
While Nick stroked his beard;  
Then they shouted approval,  
Applauded and cheered.

Then he looked at his watch  
And he said with a sigh,  
"We've had lots of fun,  
Now it's time that I fly!"

And with one great laugh  
And one great "Ho-Ho-Ho"  
He yelled to his team,  
"Now it's time that we go!"

"To Playland! To Sporters!  
To just name a few!  
To Boston-Boston!  
And to the Bamboo!"

"To Merrimac Citadel!  
And the Club!  
We'll stop into Club Max  
To pick up some grub!"

"This town is terrific—  
A great Gay Oasis!  
We won't have much time  
To hit the straight places!"

"So he smiled at the crowd,  
He was as glad as can be;  
A Gay Christmas to All!  
And Especially Me!"

What would happen if Santa Claus decided to take the year off and found another great "friend" of children to take his place? I suppose many of us would wake up Christmas morning and find oranges in our stockings and Bibles beneath our tree.

## Anita Bryant's Coming to Town

Forget Sodomy,  
And Oral Sex too  
Missionary's all we can do.  
Anita Bryant's coming to town.

She'll try to combine  
The Church and the State  
She'll try to find out  
Who's gay and who's straight.  
Anita Bryant's coming to town.

She knows where you've been sleeping,  
And your erotic feats.  
She'll sneak right in your bedroom door  
And she'll peek between your sheets!

So, forget Sapphic love  
And Wilde-sex too—  
Anita won't give presents to you.  
Anita Bryant's coming to town!

So many of us overlook one of our closest friends during the holiday season. Who else has been there for us, when all other friends have forsaken us? Who has always welcomed us in his home? Even though his reeds are now "closely cropped," he's still the most popular guy in town. Even Santa Claus makes a quick stop there on Christmas Eve.

## God Rest Ye Merry Gentle Fens

God Rest ye merry gentle Fens  
Let nothing you dismay.  
Although your paths are so empty  
It's only Christmas Day.  
When night is here they'll reappear  
To relieve the risque,  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and Joy  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy!

Who could ignore the reasons for  
Your popularity.  
In rain and snow and sleet and hail  
They bow on bended knee.  
The "wild side" is piled wide  
From tree to shining tree,  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and Joy  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy!

# Lesbian Sex Book — For Whom?

THE JOY OF LESBIAN SEX, by Dr. Emily L. Sisley and Bertha Harris. Crown Publishers, Inc. 223pp.

A Review by Pat M. Kuras

*The Joy of Lesbian Sex* has been released by Crown Publishers, a straight press in New York. The book is written by two lesbians and its illustrations are produced by three artists — one male, two female. This "tender and liberated guide" is a big (223 pages) bold book with an eye-catching, gilt-lettered dust jacket. Arriving in time for holiday gift-giving, this manual is decorating the display tables of many Boston bookstores.

One of the authors is Bertha Harris, perhaps best known for her novels published by Daughters, Inc. Her approach to a lesbian sex manual is more linear than her fictional writing. Instruction and information are gently offered in little entries arranged with alphabetical headings. These entry titles range from cute ("Clit lit" and "Quickies") to chic ("après-midi d'une lesbienne").

Despite its loving approach, *The Joy of Lesbian Sex* has its shortcomings. The authors cling to the concept of a penis, devoting excessive pages to vibrators and double-headed dildos, while cunnilingus (called *Sucking* in the book), masturbation, and S&M receive skimpy treatment and brief token attention is paid to lesbian mothers and gay rights. Third World women are virtually ignored and the book's artwork suggests a white *Vogue*-like bougeois lesbian as an ideal. This manual often comes off as slick and kinky, and leads one to wonder if lesbians are really its intended audience.

Some of the illustrations are in full-color, mainly in the opening pages and a smattering of pseudo-Oriental and Egyptian prints splashed with Maxfield Parrish hues. The line drawings, contributed by a man, are to say the least, awkward. Total lesbian-produced work would have been far more gratifying.

The intended purpose of sex manuals has always been to instruct the male in his performance with the



female. The assumption is that the female is nothing but a passive receptacle for the male's penis. Needless to say, lesbians do not perceive them-

selves as a man's plaything. In quoting from the introduction to *The Joy of Lesbian Sex*, "... the lesbian is imaged as a monster, of evil or of delight, because she is the synthesis of all threats to the patriarchal sense of male supremacy/ female passivity. . . . The lesbian is a woman who refuses to be tamed."

If a lesbian is a woman who refuses to be tamed, then I may also add that she is a woman who refuses to be trained. Thus, instruction in the form of a lesbian sex manual could be considered bothersome and totally unnecessary. Spontaneity may well be the spice of life, and any efforts to restrict one's behavior to a certain mode or style are clearly a nuisance.

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# Gays In The Academy — Uneven Scholars

*The Gay Academic*, edited by Louie Crew. ETC Publications, 444 pp. \$15.00

*A Review by Robert Etherington*

Gay Liberation has now penetrated into the Academy, in celebration of which Louie Crew, professor of English at a small Georgia college, has edited a collection of 26 essays by contributors in a variety of academic disciplines. Like so many such collections, *The Gay Academic* suffers from unevenness, with essays ranging from excellent to inexcusable, on subjects both fascinating and trivial, with writing styles varying from elegant to windy and dull. What is novel is the willingness of all 26 contributors to, in effect, uncloset themselves and appear in a (more or less) scholarly volume specifically for the gay community. That in itself makes *The Gay Academic* valuable.

Of the contributors, Byrne R. S. Fone of the City University of New York is probably the greatest scholar and certainly the best essayist. Although his academic specialty is 18th Century literature (He was the editor of the definitive critical edition of Cibber's *Apology*), Dr. Fone here addresses himself to 20th Century autobiographical writings by Ackerley, Isherwood and Sackville-West. "Each of these memoirs is the story of a quest, not only for parents and lovers, but for the stability of the artist acting freely and deliberately within the

homosexual self." Dr. Fone admirably describes each quest and its literary results. He is now at work on a critical examination of gay literature. In light of this essay, I can think of no better writer for such a task.

Of nearly equal interest is Edgar Friedenburgh's "Gaiety and the Laity: Avoiding the Excesses of Professionalism," a warning against political fanaticism. Among his slightly conservative views is the belief that "politics will certainly take the life of anyone who encourages it to metastasize through his whole being until he judges his every gesture and commitment according to its political, or power-enhancing utility." Friedenburgh once expressed in *The Body Politic* such an anti-political, or rather anti-power attitude and was instantly denounced for his "backward notions." But I admire him for learning Orwell's lesson that politics is often little more than the lust for power (usually tyrannical), and that any rigid orthodoxy will "take the life of anyone."

Special mention should also be made of "Coming Out: Towards a Social Analysis" by frequent GCN contributor John Kyper. The essay is not so much a piece of scholarship as of highly competent journalism, the kind of primary source material that will be useful to future scholars when and if histories are written about gay politics in the 1970s. Particularly interesting is Kyper's discussion of the ill-fated gay rights bills in the Massa-

chusetts Legislature in 1973 and '74. Indeed, I wish he had focused more on this specific subject and less on a more general, hence somewhat superficial examination of recent gay history nationwide.

It is disappointing that only two historical essays were included in this volume. Surely one of the best side effects of the gay rights movement, as Katz and Duberman have shown us, is the discovery of gay history. Why was Dr. Crew so stingy in assigning space to this new subject?

The principal historical essay, Louis Crompton's "Gay Genocide: From Leviticus to Hitler," attempts far too much. It is obviously impossible to discuss the murderous abuse of homosexuals throughout the whole of history in a mere 20 pages. Attempting to do so ultimately trivializes the subject. Dr. Crompton does, however, examine (though too briefly) one particular anti-gay witch hunt in Holland in 1730. It is a fascinating piece of historical detective work and deserves an essay of its own.

Many of the remaining essays are marred by political tendentiousness and occasionally fall into the trap of gay chauvinism: gays are "good," straights "bad."

Mark Freedman's essay "Towards a Gay Psychology" betrays a willingness to use the "mentally ill" label for political purposes. While rejecting (of course) the sickness notion of homosexuality, Dr. Freedman insists that "homophobia" be classified as a disease. Surely he is playing the same

offensive game anti-gay psychologists have engaged in for years: using the "disease" label to condemn those whose behavior is seen as obnoxious. Evidently it never occurred to Dr. Freedman to question *all* uses of the medical term "disease" when applied to behavior or personality.

Stephen Risch, in "Towards a Gay Analysis of Science and Education," would have us reject "straight" science in favor of "gay" science. But he completely fails to tell us what such words mean. Does he think that the Laws of Physics change for gay scientists? Presumably Mr. Risch feels "straight" science is capitalistic, hence sinful, while "gay" science would follow the gospel according to Marx. But his relentless use of jargon ("liberative model," "dialogical process") surround his ideas (whatever they are) in an impenetrable fog.

It has been said that ultimately all arguments degenerate into semantic quibbles. Julia Stanley, author of "Lesbian Separatism: The Linguistic and Social Sources of Separatist Politics," seems determined to prove this. She dislikes a large chunk of the English language, particularly those words that have any even vaguely sexist connotations (manly, womanly, feminine, masculine, etc.). A particular irritant is the word "homosexual," which Ms. Stanley insists mustn't be used to describe lesbians since it is a term "that applies to the lives of men," not women.

*Continued from page 16*

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# Political Correctness: Is Big Sister Watching You?

By Robin E. Smith

Season's Greetings to all my fellow lesbians Out There, from the cosy suburbs to the less cosy tenements. As my personal present to each one of us, I offer a questionnaire on a subject many Lesbians worry about — political correctness. Please note that this questionnaire has two sections at the end designed to establish which *style* of P.C. your life reflects — Downwardly Mobile (impersonating the proletariat) or LP (Lesbian Professional, similar to MCP, but not quite the same).

## I. BASIC P.C. TEST

1. How many pairs of jeans do you own? Boots? (1 pt. per pr.)
2. How many women have you slept with? (1 pt. per woman)
3. Do you live in: a collective (6 pts.), a lesbian house (5 pts.), a women's house (4 pts.), with a woman lover (3 pts.), with a lesbian roommate (2 pts.), alone (1 pt.), other (0 pt.)
4. You would describe your outer appearance as: Real Butch (5 pts.), dykey (4 pts.), dykey-looking only when I wear pants (3 pts.), straight-looking even in pants (2 pts.), No One Would Ever Guess (1 pt.)
5. Have you ever come out to your family (i.e., at least one parent) and/or to an employer) (5 pts.)
6. Do your parents belong to: a disadvantaged group (Black, Native American, etc.) (4 pts.), the working class (3 pts.), the middle class (2 pts.), the rich (1 pt.)
7. How many Movement Stars have you slept with? (2 pts. per Star)



8. How would you describe your sexual orientation: lesbian separatist (4 pts.), lesbian but will work with gay men (3 pts.), lesbian but sleep with men once in a while (2 pts.), bisexual (1 pt.), heterosexual (0 pt.)

9. Have you ever had a rape fantasy and/or an S&M fantasy (*subtract* 1 pt.): involving a man (*subtract* 2 pts.), involving a woman (*subtract* 1 pt.)

10. Define the ideal lover relationship: non-monogamous (3 pts.), mono-

gamous (2 pts.), an MCC wedding (1 pt.), other (0 pt.)

## II. DOWNWARDLY MOBILE TEST

1. Is your current salary over \$7,500? *Subtract* 1 pt. for every \$1000 by which it exceeds \$7,500

2. You receive a last minute phone call asking you to appear on a radio talk show about homosexuality. The time of the show conflicts with your weekly feminist study group. You refuse to attend the show because your political analysis is more important (5 pts.), check with your study group, and they tell you to decline because the show is part of the Media Conspiracy (4 pts.), attend the show and denounce the radio station for its sexist outlook (3 pts.), attend and spend your air time criticizing various gay groups (2 pts.), attend to convey a lesbian-feminist viewpoint (1 pt.)

3. Do you frequently use spellings such as "womin" for "women," "herstory" for "history" and others? (1 pt. for each such spelling)

4. If you see another lesbian wearing a skirt, your reaction is: contempt (4 pts.), distaste (3 pts.), tolerance (2 pts.), indifference (1 pt.)

## TOTAL DOWNWARDLY MOBILE POINTS

## III. LP (Lesbian Professional) TEST

1. Is your current salary: \$30,000 or more (4 pts.), \$20,000-\$29,000 (3 pts.), \$10,000-\$19,000 (2 pts.), \$9,000 or less (1 pt.)

2. Would you consider sleeping with a woman who did not have a professional job if: she was looking for one (5 pts.), had only been unemployed a little while (4 pts.), had a college degree but was unable to get a job in her field (3 pts.), was going to night school while holding down a menial job (2 pts.), had no desire to become a professional (1 pt.)

3. Your reaction to the idea of coming out to your employer is: "Are you kidding?" (4 pts.), "It's none of their business" (3 pts.), "I believe in discretion" (2 pts.), "If the atmosphere was right (1 pt.)

4. You meet an attractive lesbian and discover that she's active in lesbian organizations. Your reaction is: Oh, yuck (5 pts.), If it's something not gay-identified, like The National Women's Political Caucus or NOW, it's o.k. (4 pts.), If she's *discreet*, it's o.k. (3 pts.), If she doesn't mention it to me much, it's o.k. (2 pts.), it's o.k. (1 pt.)

## TOTAL LP POINTS

## SCORES:

*Basic P.C. Test:* 28 or above, The Goody Two Boots Award; 21-27, You'll Do; 14-20, Better Start Worrying; 13 or below, Hopelessly Politically Incorrect.

*Downwardly Mobile Test:* 10 or above, Collective Amazon; 5-9, Right-On; 4 or below, Forget It.

*LP (Lesbian Professional) Test:* 18 or above, Daddy Warbucks's Little Girl; 12-17, Career Woman; 6-11, In Modest Circumstances; 5 or below, You'll Never Make It.

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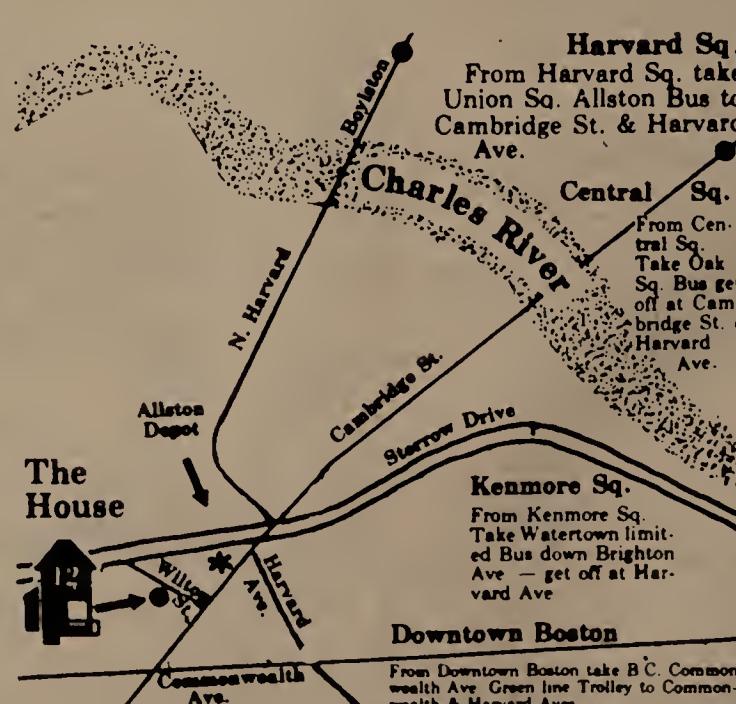
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Tony Bosco creator (there is no other appropriate word) of the excellent House restaurant in Brighton recently opened a bar in the basement of the same building called 'The Delivery Entrance'. Predictably, the design of the place is wonderful: a low beamed ceiling, warm quarry tile floors, stone and rough-paneled walls, a dim room filled with pillows for provocative lounging, wicker chairs and palms set on oriental carpets, a few discreet games.

Joseph Cain In Touch

Men & Women

7 Nights 5-1

# Comic Strip Parodies Anita Bryant

By Tommi Avicoli

PHILADELPHIA — Educators are constantly questioning the value of comic books. Are they good or bad influences on our youth? Do they form anti-social attitudes, cause schizophrenia, corrode the moral fiber of America's youth?

Comic books come in all sizes and shapes — everything from the classic (*Ivanhoe*, *Around the World in Eighty Days*) to the run-of-the-mill superhero adventures (Superman, Wonder Woman, etc.), the latter being the target of attacks by those who contend that this form of entertainment — escapist as it is — has no redeeming social value. Up to a few months ago, I would probably have agreed with this point of view. However, having recently gotten back into reading comic books, I have found quite a few surprising changes from when I was a child.

First of all, a feminist consciousness has crept into both the Marvel and the DC line of comics. Wonder Woman, that amazing Amazon from Paradise Island, now rejects male chauvinist attitudes with feminist retorts. Marvel has issued a new comic with a female super-hero — Ms. Marvel — and generally women seem to be faring better these days than ever before. Remember the doting, sickeningly stereotypical female that was Lois Lane in the Superman comics? No more. Less the schemer and more the independent single career woman, this new Lois no longer lives to catch a super-husband (i.e., Superman). And — this might seem the most trivial of the changes — but most women in the comics are now referred to as "Ms."



The Soho Weekly News June 9, 1977

How are the male superheroes (those super jocks of the juvenile set!) taking all this? Most seem to be enjoying it, for liberation of the female sex means liberation of the male sex, and perhaps for the first time, men can begin to genuinely feel emotions in the comics.

But by far the most enjoyable addition to the comic market these days has been, for me, a strange cynical cigar-puffing fowl by the name of Howard The Duck. His is the plight of every person. Thrown out of his own universe by a shift in the cosmic axis, our hero now wanders through good ol' "Terra Firma" dismayed at the

false values and the savagery of what he calls the "hairless apes."

His contact with humans has been, from the beginning, extremely unpleasant. The "Kidney Lady" — self proclaimed champion of "wholesome goodness" — declares him a moral degenerate and proceeds to pounce on him at every opportunity. Dr. Bong, a former scandal sheet journalist, wants to turn him into a creature half-duck, half-human. But before you miss the point, let me add that Howard The Duck is not merely bizarre. Every episode contains numerous social commentaries. If it's not the religious institutions being knocked, it's the blind conformity of most members of

our society. This is certainly not the same stuff comic books used to be made of. Howard battles not only the usual outlandish monsters, but also the bigotries and savagery of the human species.

Howard is the first comic hero I know of to have an elaborate mental breakdown (over the course of four comic books, #10 through 14), complete with esoteric soul searching and existential anguish. Howard's departure from the "normal" realm of comic book subject matter is a sign that perhaps the critics will be proven wrong. Howard is the voice of reason amidst the wasteland. He sets an example for today's youth — don't trust institutions, he says, make your own decisions.

Howard's latest foe (Jan. & Feb. '78 issues) is SOOFI (SAVE OUR OFFSPRING FROM INDECENCY), an organization whose followers and leader wear head pieces shaped like oranges. Their campaign to restore goodness to America is strikingly familiar — and it is no surprise when the leader is unmasked and Howard discovers that she is none other than Anita Bryant.

Though we never see her face, it is apparent from the beginning that this is the Orange Juice Queen. Not only is the presence of oranges a dead giveaway, but the leader's lines are right out of the mouth of the chief prude herself: "We are death commandos of love," she tells her followers. "We oppose immorality, not immoral people. Kill — with compassion." And when Howard is captured, the leader shows him the Blanditron, designed to cleanse the indecent soul. "The idea of the Blanditron came to me in a

*Continued on page 16*

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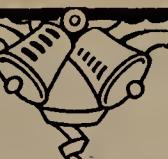
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## Academic

Continued from page 13

Perhaps she would be interested in Laurence Rosán's essay, "Philosophies of Homophobia and Homophilia." Dr. Rosán examines at some length that word "homosexual" and decides it won't do, since it is a corrupt union of Greek and Latin roots. It should be replaced with, say, "homoīsia." No doubt Ms. Stanley and Dr. Rosán could quibble forever about the precise meaning and derivation of all "sexual" words, but I prefer to remain out of such a semantic *cul de sac*.

Certainly the most pretentious essay is Jacob Stockinger's "Homotextuality: A Proposal." Stockinger labors under a misapprehension: that the French Structuralist School of literary criticism is "the mainstream of literary criticism today." Are such Structuralist critics as Ricardou and Kristeva *really* in "the mainstream"? Surely not outside of College English Department Land.

Structuralist (or Formalist) criticism is essentially an obsession with form rather than content. The Structuralist tends to rip and tear at whatever text he examines, looking for, say, "important" words or "significant" punctuation. Gore Vidal laments this "slow killing of the work through a close textual analysis." A Structuralist "is prone to regard the object of analysis as being somehow inferior to the analysis itself."

It is through such a wringer that Stockinger forces various works by Gide, Genet and Forster (among others). Surely they don't deserve such treatment. One can only hope that, like French fashions, Structuralist criticism will soon change into something completely different (and that Stockinger will learn to distinguish between the conjunction "as" and the preposition "like").

Of the remaining essays, fully four

are devoted to theological issues. All insist that churches must change, reform and accept homosexuality. Well and good. But why did Dr. Crew fail to include even a single essay on atheism from a gay perspective? The question of whether or not we should bother with *any* church isn't even raised.

Throughout *The Gay Academic* there are far too many errors in gram-

mar and spelling. (Vidal's second novel is called *In a Yellow Mood*, "discreet" and "discrete" are confused.) Such mistakes are inexcusable in an academic volume and might leave the casual reader with the (I hope) mistaken impression that gay scholars are sloppy and amateurish.

Despite such reservations, *The Gay Academic* is a useful first step in presenting examples of gay scholarship to

what I hope will be an interested audience. Future collections no doubt depend on the success of this one. It is, therefore, sad that the book is not now available in the Boston area (and seems to be inadequately publicized nationwide). It can be obtained at the Oscar Wilde Bookstore in New York or through the mail from ETC Publications, Dept. 1627-A, Palm Springs, CA 92262.

## Comic Strip

Continued from page 15

vision," the orange-headed leader says, "The Almighty appeared to me on Miami Beach... And instructed me to carry the prevailing community standards of Dade County to the whole world." Howard is disgusted. The leader continues: "Decency isn't just for breakfast anymore, he said... And then handed me the schematics for the Blanditron."

Howard is placed in the Blanditron (which strangely enough, looks just like a washing machine), but without success. Being an alien, Howard is of course immune to the machine. When he emerges, he punches the infamous leader, the orange-shaped mask cracks and behold — it's Anita! Alarmed at her defeat, she cries: "But I can't have failed... not with HIM on my side."

As Howard struts out the door, she moans, "A day without imposing my morality on someone else is like a day without — well, you know!"

Yes, Anita, we know.

\*All quotes from *Howard The Duck*, #21, Feb. 1978, published by Marvel Comics, NY.

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## gay community news



GCN's booth at the Big Splash.

## Christmas Benefit

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# people, places and flings

By Eric Rogers

Ho-Ho-Ho! Merry Christmas! This is the week when many of my favorite nightspots are throwing big bashes. Over at Club '76, Jacqui Mac's having a special Christmas Benefit on Wednesday, Dec. 21, to benefit both **Rosie's Place**, an important refuge in the South End for women in transition, and the **Globe Santa**. There will be a \$2.00 donation at the door, and all drinks throughout the evening are two for the price of one. . . . On Christmas Eve Club '76 will be offering free egg-nog, with a bit of brandy, and there will be an exchange of gifts between celebrants. So be sure to pick up a little something (keep it under \$2). And of course there will always be disco with **Jacqui** . . .

**Playland** is always Boston's leader in holiday decorations, but this Christmas they've gone beyond my wildest expectations! The club is splashed with pink and tinsel and glitter, with oodles of tiny white lights throughout. Don't miss their December decor — it adds so much to an already festive setting for good cheer. . . .

The **Vikings** are having their holiday party on Sunday, Dec. 18, from 3:00-8:00 at **Twelve Carver**. There will be a pork dinner, good strong drinks, raffle prizes, and other holiday surprises. Tickets go for \$3.00 and proceeds go to benefit a charity for the aged. . . . Club Max's Gay Community Christmas Party, last Tuesday, was wonderful — the food and the furs and the fun made it an evening to remember throughout the holiday



season.

Over at **Somewhere**, Carolyn, from Provincetown's **Isis**, will be selling women's records, jewelry, oils, and some very special t-shirts about the "Seagull of P'town" till Christmas. Now that we've all found out the seagulls are sisters, that t-shirt's becoming a popular item. . . . **Janet Cooper** is also at **Somewhere**, selling some very attractive holiday and friendship cards made from 19th century children's book illustrations of girls together. They're really some of the nicest cards I've seen in a while. . . . **Somewhere's** celebrating New Year's with a huge, holiday party — drinks, buffet, noisemakers and disco will ring in the new year. Tickets are \$7.50 and on sale at the bar. . . .

While we're looking ahead to New Year's Eve, **1270**, which was just named one of the 20 best Gay Discoteques in the country by **Blueboy** magazine, is celebrating with complimentary champagne, dinner, and music madness. Tickets cost \$5.00 and are on sale on all three floors of the

club. . . . **The Bar** is the new name of the Community Club and **Gary Dotterman**, formerly of **Together**, is the new manager. Gary tells me they're renovating now, so be sure to stop by, especially for the 35¢ beer on Saturday and Sunday from 12-8 . . .

There's lots of good art around town these days, so why not take an afternoon and check it out? The **Boston Center for the Arts** Gallery at 549 Tremont St. has a show of South End Artists through this week. . . . Silk-screened posters by **Nikki Shumann** are at **Frameworks** in Porter Square, Cambridge, and be sure not to miss them — the woman does excellent work. . . . At **Boston Visual Artists Union's** Wall Gallery near Government Center, catch the drawings of **Idahlia Stanley**. . . . And always check out the **Women in Visual Arts** display at Club '76, this month featuring the works of **Susan Wilson**, **Vaughn Sills** and **Sarah Putnam**.

For a special Christmas gift, take someone special to see **The Club**, playing at the Charles Playhouse through Jan. 8. Unfortunately, the run is being cut short due to lack of support from the public. . . . Don't miss **Lily Tomlin** on television this week. **Robin Young** will be interviewing **Lily** on Tuesday, Dec. 20, at 7:30 on Channel 4's **Evening Magazine**. **Lily** will also be up to her usual antics. . . . I hear she'll do **Ernestine**, **Mrs. Beasley**, and maybe even **Crystal**. . . .

Amidst all the parties and madness of holiday-time, the **Cambridge Women's Center** is having a discussion on

"Coping With the Holidays," at 8:00 on Wednesday, Dec. 21 — a serious look at a process many of us are getting caught up in. . . . It was nice to see the gang from **Lavender Resistance** at the March Against Fascism in South Africa last weekend. **Lavender Resistance** is a group of gay socialist-feminists that make certain that other progressive groups realize that gays are supporting their struggle. . . .

The **Botolph Gallery** at 94 Brattle St. in Cambridge is the place to go for handcrafted jewelry, paintings, and prints. Be sure to take a look at the nature ink pressings by **Cion Zago** as well as his cards. . . . **Century Auto Rentals**, at 115 No. Beacon St. in Watertown, has very reasonable rates for auto rentals. Phone them at 923-9300 and be sure to ask those friendly folk about their weekend special. . . . And have you gotten your "Chorus Line" tickets yet? Hurry, hurry!

If you can possibly stay in on the "Night Before Christmas" the tube will be offering some of my personal holiday favorites, "Miracle on 34th St." will be on Channel 38 at 6:30, and "A Christmas Carol" (the British version) is on Channel 7 at 4:30. Make yourself a cuppa 'nog and enjoy the show. . . .

My best wishes go out to you all for a warm and wonderful holiday season. Let the spirit of community reign through the commercialism, and remember those that make your life joyous. . . . Tidings to all. . . .

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## personals

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#### MOUSE

It's like the end of the world.

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Can we help each other? Am GWM 27ish in search of compatible guy 18-23, to help me paint, clean and fix up my old Boston house in trade for room and/or modest pay. Call and ask 267-7422. Good guys, please no dope nor smoke. (26)

To all the great guys we've had the good fortune of meeting — we wish you JOYOUS SEASON'S GREETINGS and a MOST HAPPY and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR. From Carl and Joe of Carl's Guest House, Provincetown, Mass. (26)

#### BARRY U. MENOMA

How do you help a poor cripple get a head??? You gotta know the right people. Maude Lynn.

#### SAMSON

2. 3. 4. 2? DELILAH

#### STAN ST. GEORGE

Are you any better? Life is disgustingly unpleasant here. Ready to chuck in the towel. Book received for which many thanks.

#### APARTMENT SWAPPING

I am gay female with attr. cozy apt. in P-Town. If you have nice apt in Bos or Camb maybe we could swap apts on occ. wknds. No drugs or heavy drnkrs. Have refs. Call (617) 487-3640. (25+)

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GM 24 seeks promiscuous young men — What is your sexual fantasy? Write GCN Box 850. (25)

LOOKING FOR A HARDHEADED... Women, etc. Must not smoke or booze, much. Have values, in life! Am end of thirty, quiet, spiritual; fairly liberal feminist. GCN Box 851.

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GWM 24, 5'11", 150 lbs, br. hr. sks GM 21-? fr FRNDSHIP, SEX,? Have many int esp quiet times, good smoke, have apt in Bos. It's going to be a long, cold winter! Why not write and lets get to know each other. Photo apprec. GCN Box 848. (25)

#### HITCHHIKING

Have you had any unusual experience on either end of the thumb? Scary? Romantic? Fun? GCN is doing a story on the experiences of gays hitchhiking. Send your stories to GCN Box 843 or leave a tel. no. and we will get back to you. (22)

KEENE PTRBRO MLFRD NASHUA Am I the only gay Episcopalian in New Hampshire? Have snow tires — need friends. P.O. Box 304, New Ipswich, New Hampshire 03071 Amen. (24+)

SANDI  
1. 4. 3. (26)

JOAN  
If you wish to respond to a box number in any of our ads, send to GCN Classifieds, Box \_\_\_\_\_, 22 Bromfield St., Boston MA 02108.

BOSTON-CAMBRIDGE  
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Share apt near Brook House Jamaica Way with working male 27, own room, St. parking near MTA. \$113.50+ util. 232-9274. (24+)

Urgent—M F roommate needed for immed. occ. We r 2 (GM + GF) BU mus. majors. Rent \$113/mo. ht/hw inc. Call after 5—ask for Mark or Ellen 254-1818. (26)

Dining is west, Gertrude and Alice looking for a 3rd nr Inman Sq. Rent is alrightalright \$75+ util. Cubists need not apply. Call 628-3870. (25)

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Sugar Daddy GWM 30 sort of! Wood like live N-cleanout stud. No cost but?? Pref guy 18-24 wth a lot of class who can keep arrangement secret. 322-1204. U will hve own room, must njoy travl, culture, athletic events! No 1 niters! (28)

GM student needs rm in hse or apt Jan-Aug in Boston-Brkln. Pay to 120.00 monthly. Prefer neat, responsible, pleasant, non-smoking. Call John (413) 256-6662, aft. Dec. 21 (617) 443-3356. (Not a sex ad) (25+)

Prof. or Grad Student, BiWM or GWM, wanted to share 2 bed, mod. apt. Natick/Framingham line — close to Bos. A/cond, gym fac. Call 879-6707. (11)

Share apt near Brook House Jamaica Way with working male 27, own room, St. parking near MTA. \$113.50+ util. 232-9274. (24+)

Urgent—M F roommate needed for immed. occ. We r 2 (GM + GF) BU mus. majors. Rent \$113/mo. ht/hw inc. Call after 5—ask for Mark or Ellen 254-1818. (26)

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GM seeks room in household, Camb. area. Call 864-8306 ask for Ralph. (c)

Rommate wanted to share large house In country, 20 min from Boston, with two gays in 20's. Need car. Call evenings only 259-0951. (22)

M or F roomate wanted to share W. Somerville apt w/GF and GM. \$87.50 + utilities. Nonsmoker pls. Call 628-9213. Available Jan. 1. (25)

## job op

Learn a skill. Help build the feminist community. Meet women! Sister Courage, a local fem. paper, is looking for volunteers to join our collective. We offer wkshps in writing, prod. bus. We need help now! Call 661-2689. (25)

WANT A REAL CHALLENGE?  
Be a force in the community—GCN seeks a NEWS EDITOR. Call Harry or Tony at 426-4469 or send resume to GCN, 22 Bromfield St., Boston, MA 02108. (C)

Press operator, experienced & dependable, with some camera skills. Full-time position in a gay-owned business doing offset printing and graphic arts photography. Initiative and problem solving ability a must; gender and orientation are unimportant. Call Manager, Xanadu Printing, 661-6975. (25)

GWM help run greenhouse for rm/bd. Send info re: yourself & interests, prefer non-smoker 30-50 (flexible). Contact Thalers, Pittsfield, ME 04967. (21,23,25)

Experienced keypunchers needed for work on sexuality survey.  
Contact Don Barrett at Box 761.

Experienced carpet layer needed for job at Fenway Health Center, 16 Haviland St., Boston. Call 267-7573, ask for Kevin Cunningham. (23+)

## rides

Adventurous woman lkng for congenial rider to share leisurely trip to New Orleans leaving approx Jan 1. Call Muffy at 776-3997. (25)

## wanted

GCN is always in need of office furniture, paint, sofa, file cabinets, shelves and anything that is in good repair for our office. To donate contact Tony at 426-4469. (c)

We need a driver with a van or truck to donate time & truck (we'll pay gas) to help pick up donations for GCN. Call Tony at 426-4469. (c)

COMIC BOOKS WANTED  
We pay top dollar for pre-1974 collections also any and all underground literature. Call 10am or 9pm (617) 429-1299.

## instruction

Want to form small recorder group in New York City. Call (212) 499-8708. Bennett. (24)</

# CLASSIFIED

Attention: Lonely yng WM soon to be released in desperate need of male companionship. Charles Griggs, 048072, P.O. Box 1167, Gainsville, FL 32601. (24)

BM 28, open-minded, objective with many interests, broad perspective. Sex not a factor, sensitive, clear-minded person. Interests me most. Corrie E. Lee, T-3-N-3, A-033103, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091. (24)

WM 5'6", 134, brown hair, green eyes, friendly, pleasant, "romantic" person. Seek right person to settle down with and have serious relationship. Bobby Lee Schleb, #137-262, P.O. Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699. (24)

25, 5'10", 155, lt. brown hair, brown eyes, looking for sincere gay people who care to correspond with a prisoner. Steve Young 054567, D.C. #11, Box 667, Bushnell, FL 33513. (24)

34, 6'1 1/2", 227, coffee and cream color, foof-man choo mustache, lift weights, love chess and classical music, don't drink or smoke cigs. Sagittarius, love outdoors. Have large bottoms, passionate. Will be out next July. B. Dee Jones, 149-674, 6-H-8, P.O. Box 511, Columbus, OH 43216. (24)

21, blond hair, blue eyes, 5'8", 140, GWM, will answer any letter received. Christopher Hicks 052683, E-46, P.O. Box 221, Raliford, FL 32083. (26)

20, dark brown hair, green eyes, 5'7", 150, will answer all. Davy Bass 051233, E-46, P.O. Box 221, Raliford, FL 32083. (26)

## organizations

**LUTHERANS**  
ALC, LCA and Mo. Uniting for Justice, love, understanding in our church. Lutherans Concerned (for gay people), Box B-19114A, Los Angeles, CA 90019.

**SUPPORT LESBIAN MOTHERS**  
Lesbian Mothers National Defense Fund, 2446 Lorent Place, W. Seattle, WA 98109. (206) 282-5798. Membership \$5.00.

**MCC PROVIDENCE**  
More than a sexual being? Have mind, heart, soul? Get it all together at Metropolitan Community Church-Providence. Services 7pm Sunday, 134 Mathewson St., Rev. Marge Ragona, pastor. 272-9247. (?)

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST GAY CAUCUS OF NEW ENGLAND** has been formed. We are an inclusive group of religious liberals who seek to provide opportunities for community building among gay people. We meet Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at the Arlington St. Church. For more information, contact Bob Wheatley at the UUA Office of Gay Concerns, 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108, or (617) 742-2100. (c)

**BOSTON GAY CATHOLICS**  
Dignity/Boston sponsors EXODUS MASS, a liturgy for gay and concerned Catholics every Sunday at Arlington Street Church (Boston), Boylston St. entrance at 5:30 pm. For info. contact Dignity/Boston, 355 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02114. Tel. 536-6518. (35)

**NGTF NEEDS YOU**  
Join with the largest, fastest growing gay civil rights group in the country! The National Gay Task Force works with a professional staff on media representation, national legislation, Information clearinghouse, religious reforms, corporate non-discrimination statements, more! Help support our work — join now. \$15 membership (\$5 limited income) includes Newsletter. NGTF, 80 Fifth Ave., Rm. 506, New York, NY 10011.

**GAY ACTIVISTS ALLIANCE NJ**  
— Men and women — Militantly gay — militantly proud — Join us at 176 Kansas St., Hackensack, NJ, every Fri. at 9 p.m. Political action caucus Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. (201) 343-6402.

**INTEGRITY MAINE AT LAST!**  
Gay men and women all ages meet twice monthly in private home. For time and place write: Integrity, Box 283, RFD Damariscotta, Maine 04543 or telephone (207) 563-5856. Keep trying. (26)

**THE GAY NURSES' ALLIANCE** needs your support if you are an RN, LPN/LVN, or student nurse. Basic membership is \$5.00 per year, which includes a subscription to our newsletter. (Contributions greater than \$5.00 are encouraged and appreciated). Many states are in need of coordinators to help organize local chapters. An apathetic nurse misses out on learning and growing experiences. Get involved! For more info, please write: GNA, P.O. Box 530, Back Bay Annex, Boston, MA 02117. (20)

**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WORCESTER**, church service at 6 Institute Road, 2 p.m. Sundays. 756-0730 — The 3rd year begins.

**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF BOSTON**, services each Sunday at 7:00 p.m. (hymn sing 6:45), 131 Columbia St., Boston (Old West Church). Edward T. Hougen, pastor. Office 523-7664. All persons are welcome. (c)

**COMING TO S.F. BAY AREA?**  
Stanford Gay People's Union welcomes you. Social hours, rap group, peer counseling, programs, parties. Phone (415) 497-1488; mail to Box 8265, Stanford, CA 94305.

**CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING**  
Men, 40 and older, have problems different from young Gay Activists. Small discussion group forming NYC. Call (212) 242-8112 or write Burdick, Apt. 1C, 270 W. 25th St., NYC, NY 10001. (21)

**In New Jersey, the Gay Activist Alliance/Morris County meets every Monday at 8:30 p.m. using facilities of Unitarian Fellowship, Normandy Heights Rd., Morris-town, NJ. Info: (201) 884-0653; 347-6234.**

## publications

**CALIFORNIA SCENE**, 9th year. Single copy \$2.25. Six issues \$10. Articles of general interest and news of all California plus photos, theatre, movie reviews and book reviews. Box 26032, Los Angeles, CA 90026. An independent, GAY OWNED magazine. (c)

Collector wishes to acquire back issues of Arcadie, Better Life, Hermes, Puberty Rites, Ben, Xerox or photocopies acceptable. GCN Box 846. (24)

**CORRESPONDENTS WANTED**  
In states other than New York to cover local news. Background and experience not nearly as important as good judgment and ability to write standard news journalese. Still no pay yet. Contact Bruce Gelbert at Gaysweek, 216 W. 18 St., NY, NY 10011. (212) 929-7720. (21)

**Before you stop trying to find a lover try us. Advice, Fantasies, Personals. Twelve issues \$10; sample \$1. You're Not Alone, P.O. Drawer 8398CH, Atlanta, GA 30306.** (c)

## FOCUS

A monthly journal of fiction, articles, poetry, book reviews, etc., by, for and about gay women. 1 year subscription (12 issues) \$6. Sample copy 60¢. Always sent in plain envelope. Focus, Box GCN, 1151 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138. (c)

**GAY SCENE** — The Picture Homophile Monthly in 8th Year of Publication. News From Everywhere; Movement News; King's Reviews (Stage, Screen, Book & T.V.); D.D.'s Best Bets; Lesbians Life; Articles; Nude Plaything of the Month; Religious News; Personals; and More. Send \$1 for sample copy. \$8.00 for 12 Issues (In Plain Envelope) To: REGIMENT, Box 247, Grand Cent. St., NYC 10017.

**FOCUS**, journal for gay women, needs contributors. If you write short fiction, essays of interest to lesbians, or poetry, please send it to FOCUS, C/O DOB, 1151 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138. There is no payment, but it is fun to see your work in print, and you do get free copies of the issues in which your work is published. Include SASE for return of material not accepted for publication. (c)

## BOSTON BAR GUIDE

### BAMBOO LOUNGE

30 Avery St.

Food, Mixed.

### BOSTON EAGLE

88 Queenberry St. 247-9586

Leather, Men, Thurs. Club Nite, Sunday Brunch 3PM, Movies Mon. & Tues. 8PM

### CARNIVAL LOUNGE

39 Boylston St. 338-7159

Dancing, Mixed.

### CHAPS

27 Huntington Ave. 266-7778

Food, Men.

### CITADEL

22 Avery St. 482-9040

Dancing, Men.

### CLUB 76

76 Batterymarch St. 542-3377

Food, Women and their friends.

### COMMUNITY CLUB

252 Boylston St. 247-9308

Noon to 2AM, 7 days a week.

Dancing, Games, Food.

### DELIVERY ENTRANCE

At The House Restaurant.

12 Wilton St., Allston 783-5701

Men & Women. "It's Different."

### HARRY'S PLACE

45 Essex St.

Dancing, Men.

### HERBIE'S RAMROD ROOM

12 Carver St. 338-8577

Leather, Men, Sunday Brunch 7PM, Thurs.

### NAPOLÉON CLUB

52 Piedmont St. 338-7547

Dancing Fri., Sat., Sun. Men.

### PARADISE

180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge Talking, Mostly Men, 864-4130

### PLAYLAND

21 Essex St.

Men (Some Women).

### 119 MERRIMAC

119 Merrimac St. 523-8960

Dancing, Men, Tues.-Thurs. Buffet 9-11PM

### RAINBOW ROOM

15 Lansdowne St.

Disco Dancing, Men.

### SAINTS

(Call 354-8807) Women.

### SOMEWHERE

295 Franklin St. 423-7730

Disco Dancing, Mixed, Sunday Brunch 12:2PM.

### SPORTER'S CAFE

228 Cambridge St.

Food, Men, Saturday Brunch 5PM, Movies Mon., 3PM, Sunday Brunch 3PM.

### STYX

20 Blagden St. 247-3910

Disco Dancing, Men.

### THE SHED

272 Huntington Ave.

Leather, Men, Sunday Brunch 4PM.

### TOGETHER

110 Boylston St.

Disco Dancing, Mixed.

### 1270

1270 Boylston St. 261-1257

Disco Dancing, Mixed (Mostly Men).

### TWELVE CARVER

12 Carver St.

Men.

## SATURDAYS

2 pm — Project Lambda Rap session for gay teenagers, 70 Charles St., Boston.

8 pm-12 — Brown U. Gay Lib, 305 Faunce House, Providence, RI, 863-3062.

10 pm-3 am — Worcester Hotline, 791-6562.



## SUNDAYS

9am — Closet Space 740AM with Lisa Schwartz and Joe Martin. (Boston)

11am — Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348 West 14th St., NYC.

1:20pm — GRAC swimming, Lindemann Ctr., Stanford St., across from Longfellow Towers.

2pm — Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348 West 14th St., NYC.

2pm — MCC/Worcester service, Central Cong. Church, 6 Institute Rd., Worcester.

2:40pm — GRAC swimming at Lindemann Center, Stanford St., Boston.

2:30pm — "Gay A's" Alcoholics Rap, Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston.

4:40pm — Gay Women's Group of Providence rap, (401) 831-5184.

5pm — Dignity/Integrity Mass, St. Luke's Church, 17 S. Fitzhugh St., Rochester, NY.

5pm — MCC/Boston Bible study group, 131 Cambridge St., 523-7664.

5:30pm — Exodus Mass, St. Clement's Church, 1105 Boylston St., Boston.

5:30pm — Dignity service, Arlington St. Church, Boylston St. entrance, Boston.

6:30pm — Gay Church services, 23 Franklin St., Bangor, ME.

7pm — Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348 West 14th St., NYC.

7pm — MCC services, South Church, 292 State St., Portsmouth, NH (first Sunday of month).

7pm — MCC/Providence, 134 Mathewson St. (401) 272-9247.

7pm — MCC/NY worship, 201 W. 13th St. (corner of 7th Ave.).

7pm — MCC/Boston, worship and fellowship, Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston.

# calendar

## 18 sun

Cambridge — The Gay Academic Union of New England will meet in the Sherpard Room, Phillips Brooks House, Harvard, 4-6pm.

Boston — Stephanie Byrd and Charlie Shively, poetry reading at Stone Soup Gallery, Cambridge St., 8:30pm. Free.

## 19 mon

Portland, ME — We Are Ourselves a lesbian film for women only. 92 Bedford St., 7:30pm. For info call (207) 773-2981, Ext. 535.

## 21 wed

Boston — Midweek service at Metropolitan Community Church at 8 p.m., Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St.



Deadline for all Calendar Items, Every week and Quick Gay Guide is 12 noon each Wednesday for the next issue.

## 23 fri

Boston — Am Tikva service and social, Frost Lounge, Ell Ctr., Northeastern U., 360 Huntington Ave., 7:30 p.m.

Boston — Be an Instant Blessing; come help us fold, stuff and seal GCNs. In return you will receive enlightening conversation, free refreshments, and large amounts of appreciation. Come to the GCN office any Friday between 5:30 and 8:30 p.m., 22 Bromfield St.

## 31 sat

New York City — Gala New Year's Eve Party at the Gay Synagogue of New York for women & men. 57 Bethune St. (up the ramp in the courtyard), 9 p.m. Donation \$5 at the door. Free wine and buffet! Call (212) 492-6334 for info.

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Please send \_\_\_\_\_ copies of *A Gay Person's Guide to New England*, 1977 supplement only at \$1.50.

